

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 229086

21

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-04 /070 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:JBROH-KAHN:JY

APPROVED BY EA/LC:LMRIVES

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R 172331Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: SOUVANNA DENIES NVA PRESENCE TO FRENCH PAPER

1. PARIS HAS POUCHED DEPT AND VIENTIANE COPIES OF INTERVIEW WITH SOUVANNA IN OCT 10 LE QUOTIDIEN OF PARIS IN WHICH SOUVANNA QUOTED AS SAYING HE DID NOT THINK ANY NVA REGULARS REMAINED IN LAOS. ELSEWHERE IN INTERVIEW SOUVANNA SAID LAO MIGHT HAVE DIFFICULTIES WITH VIETNAMESE WHO PASS THROUGH LAOS, BUT THIS NOT IMPORTANT, VIETNAMESE ENTER WITHOUT LAO KNOWING ABOUT IT, AND LAO HAVE NO MEANS OF STOPPING THEM.

2. SOUVANNA HAS PREVIOUSLY MADE LAST TWO POINTS PRIVATELY BUT NOT PUBLICLY AS FAR AS WE AWARE. SUCH A LINE, HOWEVER, FOLLOWING HIS ALLEGED APPROVAL OF PHOUMI'S UN SPEECH, LIKELY FURTHER TO PROVOKE VIENTIANE SIDE MEMBERS WHO ARGUE PRIMIN YIELDS TOO MUCH TO COMMUNISTS.

3. UNDERSTAND EMB NOW PREPARING ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS ON SOUVANNA'S RETURN, AND WOULD SUGGEST INCLUSION OF INTERVIEW IN YOUR ANALYSIS. KISSINGER

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Disposition Authority: shawdg
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: KAHN:JY
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To: VIENTIANE
Type: TE
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